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(DEPARTMENT OF STATE)

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TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS AND RADIO NEWS BRIEFING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25,
1962, 11:30 AM EDT

MR. WHITE: Gentlemen, there are no releases in the works, and I have nothing of a voluntary nature. I will be glad to answer what questions you may have, if I can answer them.

Q. Link, is it true that we intercepted a Russian ship?

A. Any announcement on that would come from Defense, not from State; I have heard of none.

Q. A Congressman has been quoted as saying that he has been informed at a State Department briefing that there has been.

A. An intercept?

Q. Yes.

A. Not under the current orders that I am aware of. You better cross check that with Defense.

Q. Not under current orders?

A. Yes. This may be referring back to the situation in Guatemala some years ago.

Q. Will Russian ships ~~xxx~~ ^{or} Communist ships be allowed to cross the Panama Canal under the circumstances?

A. I can't answer that question. It would depend on a number of factors that I just don't want to speculate on.

Q. Has any formula been reached for participation of the Argentine Navy?

A. I had hoped to have for you what is in the public domain on participation of the other American Republics, but it just didn't reach me in time. I may have that before this meeting breaks up.

Q. Has the answer been sent to Mr. U Thant?

A. I am afraid you will have to inquire at the White House on that.

Q. Can you tell us to which countries the details about what will happen to submarines was sent?

A. You mean copies of the President's proclamation?

Q. No, the special instructions dealing with submarines. We were referred by Denfense.

A. I wish they had alerted me. I am sorry, I just don't know.

Q. Well, the State Department said yesterday the State Department was transmitting these instructions to a number of --

A. What I am getting at is I don't have a list of them.

Q. Thank you, Mr. White.

Q. The question was has a Russian ship been intercepted; has any other ship been intercepted?

A. I said earlier that all this information the Defense Department has said that it would announce promptly. I have to refer you to them.

Q. Thank you, Link.

A. You are welcome, sirs.

Lincoln White

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